

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method for recording information related to assets throughout a life cycle of the asset, the method comprising:

identifying the asset to be entered into an asset registry;

assigning a unique identifier to the asset;

recording the information related to the asset in the asset registry, wherein the information is associated with the unique identifier;

categorizing the information related to the asset into multiple attributes;

managing read and write privileges to the asset registry for various entities; and

providing access to the attributes to the various entities that have an interest in the asset, wherein an entity having write privileges for a first attribute of the asset can write data related to a change in the first attribute of the asset to the asset registry, and an entity having read privileges for a second attribute of the asset can read data related to the second attribute.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the information related to the asset is ~~being~~ recorded ~~for over the an~~ entire life cycle of the asset.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the information related to the asset is ~~being~~ recorded for only a portion of a life cycle of the asset.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the asset includes multiple components.

5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the information related to the asset includes data corresponding to each component part.

6. (cancelled)

7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the asset is a multi-vendor asset.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the information related to the asset includes data corresponding to each sub-asset and data identifying each vendor providing a sub-asset.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information related to the asset includes data identifying a manufacturer of the asset.

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information related to the asset includes documents associated with the asset.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the documents ~~may~~ consist of at least one of the following: ~~be~~ parts lists, warranties, service agreements, user manuals, insurance, licenses or contracts, or specifications.

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the asset is a physical asset.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the asset is a financial asset ~~such as stock certificates, certificates of deposits, mortgages, options or other forms.~~

19. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the asset is a digital object.

20. (cancelled)

21. (amended) The method of claim 19 20, wherein the digital object is copyrighted asset is an image, audio program, video program, copyrighted asset, or a work of art.

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the entities having an interest in the asset communicate with the asset registry over a network.

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 22 ~~3~~, wherein the network is the Internet.

25. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the unique identifier may be an already existing designator or may be newly created.

26. (cancelled)

27. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the current owner manages the read and right privileges.

28. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising recording and storing data related to one or more transactions pertaining any change in status of the to the asset.

29. (currently amended) The method of claim 28, wherein a transaction ~~would~~ effects either a change in status of the asset, a change in ownership of an asset or a change in value of the asset.

30. (cancelled)

31. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the transaction effecting a status change may be is one or more of the following: change of ownership or change in the value, buying, selling, repairing, appraising, insuring, financing, registering, maintaining, modifying, or disposing of the asset.

32. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the transaction ~~may involve~~ includes electronic financial payments pertaining to the asset.

33. (currently amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the transaction ~~may involve~~ involves the use of credit cards, debit cards, or other consumer credit systems.

34. (cancelled)

35. (currently amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the transaction ~~may~~ involves business to business exchanges that rely on ~~commercial credit transactions such as wire transfers, Electronic Data Interchange technologies or other~~ commercial credit systems.

36. (cancelled)

37. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~28~~ 29, wherein the change in status of an the asset initiates ~~may be affected by~~ one or more transactions which further alter the status of the asset.

38. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, wherein one entity ~~ies~~ initiates ~~are involved a~~ in the transactions and another entity receives notice of the transaction automatically via the registry.

39. (cancelled)

40. (cancelled)

41. (cancelled)

42. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~29~~ 41, wherein ~~the~~ effecting a status change to an asset requires documents to be recorded into the registry. ~~required for participating in a transaction may further include insurance, finance, ownership, or registration.~~

43. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~29~~ 38, wherein a change in status of an asset automatically adjusts at least one read or write privilege pertaining to at least one entity. ~~each entity may be involved in one or more transactions.~~

44. (cancelled)

45. (cancelled)

46. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the various entities include at least the manufacturers or vendor, and the purchaser of the asset ~~distributors, wholesalers, retailers, buyers, owners, law enforcement, insurance, and financial.~~

47. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, wherein documentation ~~may be~~ is generated in support of or as a result of a the transaction and said documentation is stored and recorded in the registry.

48. (currently amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the documentation includes at least one or more of the following: purchase orders, maintenance receipts, appraisals, inspections, mortgages, promissory notes, and registrations.

49. (cancelled)

50. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the read and write privileges can be changed during the life cycle of the asset.

51. (original) The method of claim 50, wherein an owner of the asset manages the read and write privileges.

52. (currently amended) A system for recording information related to an asset and providing access to the information to interested parties throughout a life cycle of the asset, the system comprising:

~~a plurality of entities having an interest in the asset;~~

an asset registry for recording information related to the asset;

categorizing the information into various attributes;

managing read and write privileges to ~~the~~ a plurality of entities having an interest in the asset;

providing access to the various attributes to the plurality of entities, wherein an entity having write privileges for a first attribute of the asset can write data related to a change in the first attribute of the asset, and an organization having read privileges for a second attribute of the asset can read data related to the second attribute; and

a network providing a link between the plurality of entities and the asset registry.

53. (cancelled)

54. (original) The system of claim 52, wherein the network is the Internet.

55. (currently amended) A system for recording information related to an asset and providing access to the information to interested entities, the system comprising:

means for recording information related to the asset;

means for categorizing the information into various attributes;

means for managing read and write privileges to entities having an interest in the asset; and

means for providing access to the various attributes of the asset to the entities having an interest in the asset, wherein an entity having write privileges for a first attribute of the asset can write data related to a change in the first attribute of the asset, and an ~~organization~~ entity having read privileges for a second attribute of the asset can read data related to the second attribute.

56. (currently amended) The system of claim 55, wherein the means for recoding information records information related to ~~any~~ changes in status of the asset.

57. (original) The system of claim 55, wherein the means for recording information records information related to transactions that have an effect on the asset.

58. (original) The system of claim 57, wherein the means for recording information records documents related to the transactions.

59. (original) The system of claim 57, wherein the means for recording information records information related to the entities participating in the transactions.

60. (original) The system of claim 55, wherein the means for recoding information records information related to the entities having an interest in the asset.

61. (original) The system of claim 57, wherein the means for providing access to the various attributes of the asset includes means for authenticating the entity desiring access.

62. (cancelled)

63. (cancelled)

64. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the various entities comprise entities from at least two different organizations, each organization having different legal or financial interests in the asset.

65. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein an asset is anything that can be legally owned and for which ownership can be legally transferred.

66. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein one of the attributes is legal ownership.

67. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the information recorded includes ownership and other legal interest information pertaining to an asset.

68. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein one of the entities, in addition to the owner or producer of the asset, is an insurer of the asset, financier of the asset, or seller of the asset.

69. (new) The method of claim 17 wherein the asset is an automobile or other vehicle.

70. (new) The method of claim 69 wherein the interested entities includes: at least one of the manufacturer, distributor, or reseller of the vehicle, and the purchaser of the vehicle.

71. (new) An electronic asset record created or resulting from the method of claim 1.

72. (new) The asset record of claim 71 wherein the asset record comprises information indicating the current owner of the asset.

73. (new) The asset record of claim 71 wherein the asset record comprises information indicating at least one prior owner of the asset.

74. (new) The asset record of claim 71 wherein the asset record comprises information indicating the manufacturer of the asset.

75. (new) The asset record of claim 71 wherein the asset record comprises information pertaining to the production of the asset including the assets sub-components.

76. (new) The method of claim 2 wherein the entire lifecycle includes the production of the asset, the sale of the asset, ownership changes in the asset and the destruction or consumption of the asset.

77. (new) The method of claim 3 wherein a portion of the lifecycle of the asset does not include the production or initial sale of the asset.

78. (new) The method of claim 46, wherein the various entities further include at least an insurer of the asset or a financier or lien-holder of the asset.

79. (new) The system of claim 52 wherein the plurality of entities comprise entities from at least two different organizations, each organization having different legal or financial interests in the asset.

80. (new) The system of claim 52 wherein an asset is anything that can be legally owned and for which ownership can be legally transferred.

81. (new) The system of claim 52 wherein one of the entities, in addition to the owner or producer of the asset, is an insurer of the asset, financier of the asset, or seller of the asset.

82. (new) The system of claim 52 wherein the asset is an automobile or other vehicle.

83. (new) The system of claim 86 wherein the interested entities includes: at least one of the manufacturer, distributor, or reseller of the vehicle, and the purchaser of the vehicle.

84. (new) An asset record created by the system of claim 52.